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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 HEW-04 AID-05 TRSE-00
OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/086 W
----------110758Z 112035 /14
R 100830Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6075
INFO USMISSION USUN
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3285

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, WHO, IS, XF
SUBJECT: OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ISSUE AT WHO

REFS: (A) STATE 103414, (B) GENEVA 3448, (C) STATE 104425

1. WE DISCUSSED ON MAY 9 WITH EYTAN RONN, THE POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE SCENARIO DESCRIBED IN REFTEL (A) TO HEAD OFF ANY MOVE FOR SANCTIONS OR EXPULSION OF ISRAEL IN THE WHA. AS ANTICIPATED IN REFTEL (B), WE FOUND VERY LITTLE GIVE IN THE ISRAELI POSITION.

2. RONN SAID THAT FOR ISRAEL TO ANNOUNCE AFTER ITS ELECTION NEXT WEEK THAT IT WILL ACCEPT THE VISIT TO THE TERRITORIES BY THE WHO COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WOULD BE A COMMITMENT WHICH IT SIMPLY IS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE. IN THE FIRST PLACE, ISRAEL HAS PREVIOUSLY MADE CLEAR THAT THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE VISIT ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE AND, EVEN IF THE STATEMENT NEXT WEEK WERE TO MAKE NO MENTION OF THOSE TERMS--AS WE SUGGESTED--IT WOULD BE SEEN AS A
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REVERSAL. SECONDLY, IT WOULD MEAN ACCEPTING THE VISIT PRIOR TO SEEING THE RESULTS OF THE WHA AND ISRAEL FEELS THE POSITIONS TAKEN AT THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD PLAY A MAJOR PART IN ITS FINAL DECISION.

3. IN ANY CASE, RONN CONTINUED, HE IS NOT SURE THAT SANCTION OR EXPULSION MOVES WILL BE UNDER-

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TAKEN. ISRAEL HAS ALSO HEARD RUMORS ABOUT SUCH MOVES AND HAS DISCUSSED THESE WITH MAHLER. THE DG HAS TOLD THE ISRAELIS THAT, FROM HIS CONTACTS, HE HAS DETECTED A CERTAIN RESERVOIR OF GOODWILL TOWARD ISRAEL FOR ITS FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE ON THE VISIT LAST YEAR. MAHLER FEELS THAT, DRAWING ON THAT GOODWILL, HE CAN REFER TO ISRAEL'S LETTER OF APRIL 22 AND SAY THE "DOOR IS STILL OPEN." MAHLER ALSO FEELS THAT THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE AT GENEVA OF ANTICIPATION OF MOVES TOWARD MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS WILL MODERATE ANY TENDENCIES TOWARD IMMEDIATE SANCTIONS OR EXPULSION.

4.RONN SAID (AS HE HAD PREVIOUSLY--SEE TEL AVIV 2923) THAT ISRAEL EXPECTS A WHA RESOLUTION WHICH WILL CONDEMN ISRAEL FOR NOT HAVING RECEIVED THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS, WILL CALL ON ISRAEL TO RECEIVE THE COMMITTEE WITHOUT DELAY, AND WILL THREATEN SANCTIONS IF THE VISIT DOES NOT TAKE PLACE WITHIN A SPECIFIED TIME. AS LONG AS IT THREATENS SANCTIONS AND DOES NOT ACTUALLY IMPOSE THEM, ISRAEL CAN LIVE WITH THE RESOLUTION. SUMMING UP, RONN SAID THE DECISION TO DEFER A DECISION ON THE VISIT UNTIL LATER IN THE SUMMER WAS TAKEN AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL AND CANNOT BE REVERSED WITHOUT FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT THAT LEVEL.

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5. COMMENT: WE ARE ENCOUNTERING RATHER FIRM OPPOSITION HERE.UNLESS THERE IS A CLEAR MOVE IN GENEVA TOWARD SANCTIONS OR EXPLUSION WHICH WOULD LEAD THE ISRAELIS TO RECONSIDER, IT APPEARS THEY WILL ADHERE TO THEIR INTENT TO DO NOTHING FURTHER NOW AND LOOK AT THE SITUATION AGAIN LATER IN THE YEAR.
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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